

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

TRSE-00 OMB-01 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /072 W

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R 301633Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4118

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL EDINBURGH

AMCONSUL BELFAST

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, UK

SUBJ: GOVERNMENT MAJORITY OF THREE ON NATIONALIZATION BILL

REF: LONDON 11734

1. SUMMARY: AS ANTICIPATED REFTEL, GOVERNMENT WON VOTE ON NATIONALIZATION BILL BY 311 TO 308 FOR A MAJORITY OF THREE. CONSERVATIVES VOTED 100 PERCENT AGAINST BILL, AND WERE JOINED BY MOST OF SNP, WELSH NATIONALISTS, LIBERALS AND IRISH. GOVERNMENT MAJORITY RESTED ON VOTES OF AT LEAST THREE AILING MEMBERS BROUGHT INTO WESTMINISTER FOR VOTE ON STRETCHERS AND WHEELCHAIRS. END SUMMARY.

2. VOTE TAKEN JULY 29 AT TERMINATION OF THREE-DAY DEBATE ON BILL TO NATIONALIZE AIRCRAFT AND SHIPBUILDING INDUS-

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TRIES RESULTED IN GOVERNMENT MAJORITY OF THREE (311 TO

308). GOVERNMENT WAS AGAIN FORCED TO BRING IN AILING MPS, SOME ON STRETCHERS AND IN WHEELCHAIRS, SINCE CONSERVATIVES REFUSED PAIRING.

3. CONSERVATIVES MADE VALIANT EFFORT AND SUCCEEDED IN WHIPPING ALL OF THEIR MEMBERS INTO THE LOBBIES. THERE WERE SIX ABSENTEES: ONE EACH FROM THE LIBERALS AND UUUC, ONE INDEPENDENT (STONEHOUSE), ONE LABORITE (RYMAN), AND TWO PRESENTLY UNIDENTIFIABLE.

4. WITH LAST NIGHT'S FAVORABLE VOTE, GOVERNMENT HAS NOW SUCCEEDED IN GETTING THROUGH COMMONS FOUR OUT OF FIVE BILLS UNDER GUILLOTINE. NO TIME HAS YET BEEN ALLOCATED FOR DISCUSSION OF THE REMAINING BILL ON ELIMINATION OF PAY BEDS, BUT THERE IS STRONG LIKELIHOOD GOVERNMENT WILL SCHEDULE THIS BILL FOR SPILLOVER SESSION OF THIS PARLIAMENT IN ORDER TO COMPLETE ITS LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM IN THIS PARLIAMENT. NEXT CRITICAL ITEM ON AGENDA WILL BE VOTE ON OPPOSITION MOTION, AS YET UNSPECIFIED, ON GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL TO CUT PUBLIC EXPENDITURE (SEE SEPTTEL). THIS MOTION WILL BE DISCUSSED AUGUST 2.

ARMSTRONG

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